



Town of Montague
Department, Board, Committee, Commission
BUDGET NARRATIVE

FY 24

Complete this form electronically! Be clear and concise!

Department: Building Submitted by: William Ketchen

1. Please describe and provide the rationale for any notable changes in your FY24 budget request.

The Building Department is requesting to add a new stipend position of a Municipal Hearings Officer at \$2500. In Massachusetts, Building Departments and Fire Departments have the ability to write tickets for certain building code and fire code violations. In order to take part in the ticketing program, Municipalities must appoint a Hearings Officer for appeals to issued tickets. Implementing a ticketing program would be useful to gain compliance with building code and fire code violations on problem properties, as an alternative to going to court.

2. To this point in FY23, have you enhanced or expanded the programs and services you provide, or implemented new tools or technology that you'd like the Finance Committee and Selectboard to know about? Please describe.

The Building Department has been implementing additional features of the on-line permitting system to provide better customer service.

3. Are there presently challenges to your department's ability to meet its goals and requirements due to its FY23 operating budget? If so, offer any your recommendations you may have for improving the situation in FY24.

Currently I see no challenge to the Building Departments ability to meet our goals and objectives.

4. Did you receive funding for any special articles in FY22 or FY23? Please list them and share the current status of those expenditures/projects.

No special funding for FY22/FY23.